

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of identifying non-local linguistic relationships between elements of a text, the method comprising:

identifying a segment of the text during syntactic parsing of the text;

identifying a token outside of the segment during syntactic parsing of the text;

based on properties of the token and properties of the segment, determining that the token may have a non-local linguistic relationship to a licensing element in the segment during syntactic parsing of the text, wherein determining that the token may have a non-local linguistic relationship to a licensing element comprises identifying a syntactic rule for combining the segment and the token; and

searching the segment for a licensing element in the segment that is capable of being in a non-local linguistic relationship with the token during syntactic parsing of the text, wherein searching is limited to the segment;

generating a record for a syntactic attribute list associated with the syntactic parse, the record indicating that the token may have a non-local linguistic relationship to a licensing element in the segment, wherein the attribute list is a hierarchical list that has a hierarchy based in part on a hierarchy of clauses in the text;

finding at least one licensing element in the segment that is capable of being in a non-local linguistic relationship with the token and adding the location of the licensing element to the attribute

list; and  
constructing a logical form based in part on the  
attribute list.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein searching the segment comprises searching each level of clauses within the segment.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the step of searching the segment for a licensing element in the segment is performed before executing the syntactic rule.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 wherein the syntactic rule is not executed if a licensing element that is capable of being in a non-local linguistic relationship with the token cannot be found in the segment.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the step of searching the segment for a licensing element in the segment is performed as part of executing the syntactic rule.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19 further comprising adding a role that the token assumes in the non-local linguistic relationship to the attribute list.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19 wherein finding at least one licensing element in the segment comprises finding at least two licensing elements and wherein adding the location of the licensing element to the attribute list comprises adding the locations of both licensing elements to the attribute list.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 further comprising for each licensing element found, adding a role that the token is capable of assuming in a non-local linguistic relationship to the attribute list.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein adding a role that the token is capable of assuming comprises adding a first role for a first found licensing element and adding a different role for a second found licensing element.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein constructing a logical form comprises accessing the hierarchical attribute list in a top-down manner.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

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21. (Canceled)

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35. (Canceled)

36. (Canceled)